

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Notice of Receipt of Applications for Permit****Endangered Species**

The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*). Written data or comments should be submitted to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203 and must be received by the Director within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Applicant: Parker Creek Ranch, San Antonio, TX, PRT-802636

The applicant requests renewal of a permit to authorize interstate and foreign commerce, export and cull of excess male barasingha (*Cervus duvauceli*), red lechwe (*Kobus lechwe*), and Eld's brow-antlered deer (*Cervus eldi*) from his captive herd for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species. This notice shall cover activities under this permit for a period of five years. Permittee must apply for renewal annually.

Applicant: John C. McEwen, Nazareth, PA, PRT-040055

The applicant requests a permit to import the sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damalisus pygargus dorcus*) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: Hornocker Wildlife Research Institute, Bozeman, MT, PRT-808113

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from live Amur leopard (*Panthera pardus orientalis*) and Siberian tiger (*Panthera tigris altaica*), and salvaged biological samples as available from carcasses of the same species, collected in the wild in Russia for the purpose of enhancement of the species through scientific research. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over a five year period.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife has information collection approval from OMB through February 28, 2001. OMB Control Number 1018-0093. Federal Agencies may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it

displays a current valid OMB control number.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, *subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act*, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: March 16, 2001.

Anna Barry,

Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****Availability of a Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of an Application for an Incidental Take Permit for the Wildcat Line Single-Family Residence Project, Monterey County, California**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability and receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Wildcat Line (Applicant), a California limited partnership, has applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Service proposes to issue a 10-year permit that would authorize take of the endangered Smith's blue butterfly (*Euphilotes enoptes smithi*) incidental to otherwise lawful activities. Such take would occur as a result of development of one single-family residence within an 11.46-acre parcel owned by the Applicant and located in Carmel Highlands, in Monterey County, California. Development would result in the loss of 0.8 acre of coastal sage scrub habitat, which supports an estimated 4,923 individuals of seaciff buckwheat (*Eriogonum parvifolium*), a host plant for the Smith's blue butterfly.

We request comments from the public on the permit application, which is available for review. The application includes a Habitat Conservation Plan (Plan). The Plan describes the proposed project and the measures that the Applicant would undertake to minimize

and mitigate take of the Smith's blue butterfly.

We also request comments on our preliminary determination that the Plan qualifies as a "low-effect" habitat conservation plan, eligible for a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act. The basis for this determination is discussed in an Environmental Action Statement, which is also available for public review.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before April 27, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Ms. Diane Noda, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, California 93003. Comments may be sent by facsimile to (805) 644-3958.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Diane Pratt, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or call (805) 644-1766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Document Availability**

Please contact the above office if you would like copies of the application, Plan, and Environmental Action Statement. Documents also will be available for review by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

Background

Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act and Federal regulation prohibit the "take" of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened, respectively. Take of listed fish or wildlife is defined under the Act to include kill, harm, or harass. The Service may, under limited circumstances, issue permits to authorize incidental take; i.e., take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species are found in 50 CFR 17.32 and 17.22, respectively.

The Wildcat Line Single-Family Residence project area is located east of Highway 1, southeast of Yankee Point, and north of Malpaso Creek in Carmel Highlands, Monterey County. The Applicant is requesting a 10-year incidental take permit for the Smith's blue butterfly.

The proposed project is development of a single-family residence on an 11.46-acre parcel. The Applicant proposes to grade the upper portions of the finger ridge to provide an area suitable for construction of one single-family residence. Other improvements to the site include an all-weather driveway, a picnic area, a new water tank and access